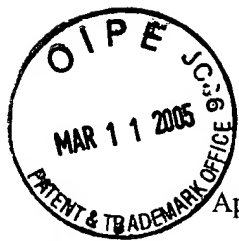


3738
efw



DOCKET NO. HRT-281

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: S. Boyd et al.

Serial No.: 09/982,503

Art Unit: 3738

Filed : October 18, 2001

Examiner: D. Isabella

For : DEVICES AND METHODS FOR PORT-ACCESS MULTIVESSEL
CORONARY ARTERY BYPASS SURGERY

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed
to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450 on

March 9, 2005

(Date of Deposit)

Brian S. Tomko

(Name of applicant, assignee, or Registered Representative)

(Signature)

March 9, 2005

(Date of Signature)

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 11, 2003, the time for response having
been extended by petition, and further in response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment
dated February 24, 2005, please consider the following:

An amendment to the specification begins on page 2 of this document.

A list of the claims begins on page 3 of this document.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this document.